

## Coronavirus (Covid-19)

# Passport, Immigration and Nationality Factsheet

This document provides guidance on immigration and British passport provisions made by the Cabinet Office for individuals affected by the consequences associated with coronavirus (Covid-19).

### Version control

Version	Publication Date	Changes from last version
2.12	15 July 2021	Update to reflect an amendment to paragraph A7 of the Immigration Rules, which removes the ability to make an entry clearance application whilst in country where the Public Health Regulations are in effect. This change reflects the re-opening of the Island's borders.
2.11	05 November 2020	Updated links to UK websites.
2.10	19 October 2020	Update to Section 8, following the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (2020/0476) coming into operation. Applicants may make an entry clearance application from in-country, where they would be unable to re-enter the Island were they to leave, as a result of restrictions of entry to the Island which have been put in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Variation of Leave Order 2020 ceased on 7 October 2020, Section 5 has been updated as a result. Update to Section 7 regarding English language test centres overseas. Update to Section 10 regarding English language tests that may be taken within the Island.
2.9	10 August 2020	Update following the Immigration (Variation of Leave) (No.2) (Amendment) (No.4) Order 2020 [SD 2020/0408]. Migrants may be granted a 30 day extension to their visa where it is due to expire and they intend to leave the Island, but are unable to due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions in place abroad. KOLL tests with the Isle of Man college have resumed - wording has been removed saying that these are currently suspended. Majority of the sections have been reworded to provide information more clearly.
2.8	14 July 2020	Amendments made reflecting the end of the Proclamation of Emergency and the re-opening of the Office's public counter.
2.7	30 June 2020	Update following the Immigration (Variation of Leave)(No.2)(Amendment) (No.3) Order 2020 [SD 2020/0371]. References to the end of the application period dated 15 July 2020 changed to 30 June 2020, reflecting the end of the Proclamation of Emergency dated 15 March 2020 (as extended).
2.6	18 June 2020	Update to Section 8 to reflect Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [SD 2020/0344]. Applicants may make an entry clearance application from in country, where they are unable return to their country of ordinary residence as a direct result of travel restrictions put in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2.5	15 June 2020	Update following the Immigration (Variation of Leave) (No.2) (Amendment) (No.2) Order 2020 [SD 2020/0346]. References to the end of the application period dated 15 June 2020 changed to 15 July 2020.

2.4	9 June 2020	Update to correct an error within the version control. Changes made in version 2.3 were incorrectly recorded against version 2.2. The original description of changes in 2.2 are restored below. Section 3B is amended to clarify that visitors may switch in country as the partner of a settled person under Appendix FM and the deadline for that application.
2.3	8 June 2020	Update to Section 7 and 7A to reflect submission of ID Document Requirements.
2.2	29 May 2020	Update to reflect Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [SD 2020/0316]. Visitors may switch to Appendix FM.
2.1	27 May 2020	Clarification of current position regarding (a) European Union Settlement Scheme (section 7A) (b) Nationality Applications (section 7B), and (c) visitor extensions to 31 July.
2.0	18 May 2020	Update following the Immigration (Variation of Leave)(No.2)(Amendment) Order 2020 [SD 2020/0306]. References to the end of the application period dated 15 May 2020 changed to 15 June 2020.
1.0	22 April 2020	First publication.

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## **Section 1: Worker Migrants & Dependents**

This section sets out the provisions made for non-Medical and Healthcare Sector Worker Migrants and their Dependents.

Those people working in the Medical and Healthcare Sector should refer to section 2.

### **1A. Automatic Extensions have now ceased**

Worker Migrant visas which expired between 15 March 2020 and 30 June 2020, were automatically extended for six months from the date of their visa's expiration date.

The automatic extension of Worker Migrant visas ceased as of 1 July 2020.

#### **What does this mean?**

Visas which expired up to 30 June 2020 will be valid for a further six months after the date that they were originally set to expire;

Worker Migrants and their Dependents whose visas expire on or after 1 July 2020 must now make a physical application to extend their leave.

#### **My work has finished and I want to return home**

If you do not intend to extend your Worker Migrant visa and can demonstrate that it is impossible or impractical to travel to your home country due to restrictions on travel imposed as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, then your leave will be extended by an additional 30 days from the date of its expiry. For example if your visa expires on 15 July 2020, but you are unable to return to your home country due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions and provide evidence of this, then your leave will be extended to 14 August 2020.

You **must** come to our public counter to make arrangements for an Immigration Officer to update your passport to reflect the extended leave. You will need to bring your passport and documents to show that you cannot travel home.

### **1B. Supplementary Employment**

The current definition of "supplementary employment" has been modified until 16 November 2020 to allow individuals to undertake additional work providing they remain employed by their existing employer as recorded on their current Confirmation of Employment.

That modified definition reads:

**"supplementary employment"** means other employment to that recorded on the Confirmation of Employment, provided the Worker Migrant remains employed by the employer recorded on the confirmation of employment.

### **1C. Employment Changes must now be authorised as normal**

The temporary ability for Worker Migrants to make changes to their employment circumstances that would normally be prohibited has now ceased.

Worker Migrants who wish to make changes to their employment circumstances must once again receive authorisation from the Immigration Service prior to making any prohibited changes to the circumstances of their employment in accordance with Part 5 of Appendix W to the Isle of Man Immigration Rules.

## Section 2: Worker Migrants & Dependents: Medical and Healthcare

This section applies to Worker Migrants, and their Dependents, with a Confirmation of Employment with a Standard Occupational Classification Code in the Medical and Healthcare Sector<sup>1</sup> only.

### **2A. Automatic Extension**

All Worker Migrant visas in the Medical and Healthcare Sector, and their Dependents', due to expire before 31 December 2020, will be automatically extended for one year from the date of their visa's expiration date, e.g. a visa due to expire on 30 December 2020, will automatically be extended to 30 December 2021.

If you need to travel internationally or need to show a third party, your employer for example that you have valid leave, please contact the [immigration@gov.im](mailto:immigration@gov.im) to make arrangements for your passport to be updated.

### **2B Supplementary Employment**

For Worker Migrants in the Medical and Healthcare sector, the definition of "supplementary employment" is modified until 31 December 2021 removing the restriction on the type of work or hours permitted for that employment

The modified definition reads:

**"supplementary employment"** means other employment to that recorded on the Confirmation of Employment, provided the Worker Migrant remains employed by the employer recorded on the confirmation of employment.

## Section 3: Visitors

### **Isle of Man Immigration Visit Visas**

If your Isle of Man issued visit visa expired **before** 31 July 2020, it will have automatically been extended so as not to expire before 31 July 2020.

If your Isle of Man issued visit visa expires **after** 31 July 2020, but you can demonstrate that it is impossible or impractical to return to your country of residence due to restrictions on travel imposed as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, then your leave will be extended by an additional 30 days from the date of its expiry. For example if your visa expires on 15 July 2020, but you are unable to return to your home country due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions and provide evidence of this, then your leave will be extended to 14 August 2020.

You **must** come to our public counter to make arrangements for an Immigration Officer to update your passport to reflect the extended leave. You will need to bring your passport and documents to show that you cannot travel home.

*Please note if your visa was not granted by the Isle of Man please see Section 6.*

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<sup>1</sup> The eligible job roles can be found in Table 2 of Part 7 of Appendix W to the Immigration Rules.

## Section 4: Other Isle of Man visa categories

Automatic extensions for all other Isle of Man issued visa types ceased as of 1 July 2020.

Any person whose Isle of Man issued visa expired on or after 1 July 2020 must now make a paper application to extend their leave as normal.

If your Isle of Man issued visa is due to expire and you can demonstrate that it is impossible or impractical to travel to your home country due to restrictions on travel imposed as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, then your leave will be extended by an additional 30 days from the date of its expiry. For example if your visa expires on 15 July 2020, but you are unable to return to your home country due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions and provide evidence of this, then your leave will be extended to 14 August 2020.

You **must** come to our public counter to make arrangements for an Immigration Officer to update your passport to reflect the extended leave. You will need to bring your passport and documents to show that you cannot travel home.

*Please note if your visa was not granted by the Isle of Man please see Section 6.*

### What must I do?

If you qualified for an automatic extension of your visa and you need to travel internationally, or need to show a third party, your employer for example that you have valid leave please come and see an Immigration Officer at our public counter to make arrangements for your passport to be updated.

If you cannot return to your home country due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions, then you **must** come to our public counter to make arrangements for an Immigration Officer to update your passport to reflect the extended leave. You will need to bring your passport and documents to show that you cannot travel home.

## Section 5: Public Funds

Currently all visas are subject to a condition of no recourse to public funds.

[The Immigration \(Variation of Leave\) Order 2020](#) varies the condition of no recourse to public funds where a visa holder is in receipt of public funds by virtue of the operation of:

- a) the Social Security Legislation (Benefits) (Application) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order 2020,
- b) Jobseekers Act 1995 (Application) (Amendment) Order 2020 and/or
- c) the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (Application) (Amendment) (No. 5) Order 2020.

This Order ceased to have effect on 7 October 2020.

## Section 6: Visas issued by UK Visas and Immigration

In very limited circumstances individuals may be in the Isle of Man in possession of a visa granted by the United Kingdom (e.g. Tier 5 Youth Mobility or a visit visa).

### What must I do?

If you hold such a visa granted you must contact UK Visas and Immigration directly to request an extension by [updating your records with the Coronavirus Immigration Team](#). This cannot be done by the Isle of Man Immigration Office.

If you are unsure whether or not you hold a UK issued visa please contact [immigration@gov.im](mailto:immigration@gov.im) providing a copy of your visa.

## Section 7: Applying for Entry Clearance to the Isle of Man

Many of the UK's Visa Application Centres (VACs) operated on behalf of UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) have now re-opened or have plans to re-open.

Please be aware that the reopening of these locations is subject to local conditions and the operating environment remaining conducive. Therefore, to ensure you always have the most up to date information on which VACs are open, please check the relevant commercial partner website.

- For Europe, Africa and parts of the Middle East visit: [uk.tlscontact.com](http://uk.tlscontact.com)
- For all other countries visit: [vfglobal.co.uk](http://vfglobal.co.uk)

Please note, priority and super priority services will continue to be paused for now. This will be kept under review.

English Testing Centres may also be affected. Visit the relevant SELT provider's website for more information:

- [Trinity College London](#)
- [IELTS SELT Consortium](#)
- [LanguageCert](#)
- [Pearson](#)
- [PSI Services \(UK\) Ltd](#)

## Section 8: Switch to a different visa whilst in the Isle of Man

As a temporary measure, holders of certain valid visas who would normally have to return to their country of normal residence, to make an application for entry clearance may apply now make that application from within the Isle of Man.

To apply you must complete a leave to remain application form found [here](#) for the immigration route you wish to apply for entry clearance for and send it to the address on the form.

Your application must be accompanied by your passport and all supporting documents. Applications can be paid for by telephone by either credit or debit card.

You will be able to make this application if at the date of application, there are travel restrictions in place as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which make travel to your country of ordinary residence impossible or impractical. If this is the case, you will be required to provide documentary evidence and a concise explanation setting out how travel to the country where you would normally be expected apply for entry clearance has been rendered impossible or impractical due to restrictions imposed on travel as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Even though you are applying in the Isle of Man, your application will be assessed against the entry clearance requirements of the route you are applying for. If you consider the meeting of a requirement is impossible or impractical, you must set out written reasons why you believe this to be the case and submit this with your application.

An Officer may contact you for clarification of any of the above if necessary.

If your application is successful the period and conditions of leave granted to you will be the same as those that would have attached to an equivalent grant of entry clearance.

## **Section 9: Isle of Man residents abroad who need to apply for a passport**

If you are overseas and are unable to return to the Isle of Man before your current British passport expires, you can apply online for an [emergency travel document](#). This will be issued by Her Majesty's Passport Office.

### **Eligibility**

You can apply for an emergency travel document if all the following apply:

- you're a British national – this includes people residing in the Isle of Man;
- you're outside the UK;
- your British passport has been lost, stolen, damaged, is full or has recently expired;
- you do not have time to renew or replace your British passport before you travel;
- you can provide proof of your travel plans, for example booking confirmations (or detailed written travel plans if you cannot book ahead/make advance bookings).

### **What an emergency travel document lets you do**

An emergency travel document will allow you to travel to your destination through a maximum of 5 countries. You can also normally use it to return to the country you're applying from if you live there. Your travel plans (countries and dates) will be printed on your emergency travel document. If you change your travel plans once you have your emergency travel document, you'll need to apply and pay for a new one.

You may need a visa to leave the country you're in or to travel through other countries with your emergency travel document. Check with the embassy or consulate of each country.

Upon your arrival in the UK, Immigration Officers will keep your emergency travel document.

## **Section 10: English Language Tests in the Isle of Man**

There are now 2 language test providers in the Isle of Man who are approved by the Home Office.



## **International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Secure English Language Test (SELT)**

This test is run by the British Council on behalf of IELTS. Tests are sat at the University College Isle of Man (UCM).

The date and availability of the next test is shown on the IELTS website here <https://www.ielts.org/book-a-test/find-a-test-location/location-list/united-kingdom/isle-of-man/ukvi>

UCM have advised the tests are suspended at the moment in light of COVID-19. IELTS will update their website as soon as they are able to resume testing. Any queries should be directed to the British Council.

## **LanguageCert International ESOL SELT**

This test is run by Prometric on behalf of LanguageCert. Tests are set that the University College Isle of Man (UCM).

Dates and availability are shown on the LanguageCert website here: <https://selt.languagecert.org/>. You will need to select **UK** as the **country** and **IOM** as the **town**. UCM advise that tests are currently available.